

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

~~SECRET~~

25X1

REPORT NO.

DATE DISTR. 9 January 1953

NO. OF PAGES

SUBJECT Czechoslovak Cavalry

REFERENCE COPY

NO. OF ENCLS.
(LISTED BELOW)

DO NOT CIRCULATE

SUPPLEMENT TO
REPORT NO.

25X1

THIS DOCUMENT CONTAINS INFORMATION AFFECTING THE NATIONAL DEFENSE OF THE UNITED STATES, WITHIN THE MEANING OF TITLE 18, SECTIONS 793 AND 794, OF THE U.S. CODE, AS AMENDED. ITS TRANSMISSION OR REVELATION OF ITS CONTENTS TO OR RECEIPT BY AN UNAUTHORIZED PERSON IS PROHIBITED BY LAW. THE REPRODUCTION OF THIS FORM IS PROHIBITED.

THIS IS UNEVALUATED INFORMATION

25X1

1. Three new cavalry brigades were being organized at Klatovy, Kolín and Jicin. A new special detachment will be set up in spring 1953 at Nyrsko. The cavalry school is now operating at Pardubice and Zvolen.
2. Cavalry maneuvers were held separately from the other army maneuvers from 3 to 7 September 1952 in the Sadska (051/M19)- Lhota - Piskova Lhota - Prední Lhota under the direction of General Kubín.
3. The formation of a new cavalry in the Czechoslovak Army was imposed by the Soviets against the wishes of the Czechoslovak General Staff, which preferred the acceleration of motorization and emphasized the lack of suitable cavalry terrain in the mountainous regions of Czechoslovakia. Moreover, General Bohumil Lastovicka since forced into retirement, protested against the raising of a new cavalry on political grounds; before 1939 the cavalry was largely recruited among the rich and the rightist agrarians, and has left in the popular mind the memory of a privileged and unpopular caste.
4. It was only after the arrival of Soviet Marshal Ivan Konev at Prague that the formation of a new Czechoslovak cavalry was decreed, but hostility to it has by no means disappeared within the Czechoslovak General Staff. The Russians were obliged to send a special mission to direct the training of the Czechoslovak cavalry. This mission, under the Soviet General Tjamin (sic), was to take over on 1 November 1952. From the political point of view, the situation has not changed. Cavalry officers keep separate from others, and the soldiers are demonstrably non-Communist, especially in Slovakia.
5. General Sezamsky, connected with General Jan Satorie, who headed President Klement Gottwald's military bureau, has been given the duty of handling the political education of the recruits, but so far has achieved very little.

25X1

CLASSIFICATION

SECRET

STATE	X	NAVY	X	NSRB	DISTRIBUTION									
ARMY	X	AIR	X	FBI										